DECEMBER 4, 2014 ISSUE 52

ACA IMPLEMENTATION NEWS

UPDATING YOU ON PROGRESS AND AVAILABLE RESOURCES RELATED TO THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

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In This Issue!

In this issue of *ACA Implementation News*, we provide new enrollment data from the Department and Connect for Health Colorado, links to new consumer resources, guidance from Connect for Health Colorado for clients who experience technical issues and information about walk-in enrollment sites.

As a reminder, please send us your ACA implementation questions/suggestions so we can provide timely and relevant information to you. Questions, comments and suggestions should be sent to **ACAImplementation@hcpf.state.co.us** for inclusion in upcoming issues of *ACA Implementation News*.

To sign up for *ACA Implementation News* or the Department's ACA Communication Updates, click <u>here</u>.

You can also find us on <u>Facebook</u>, Twitter @COGovHealth and YouTube.



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News of Note

Enrollment Update from the Department and Connect for Health Colorado

On Tuesday, <u>Connect for Health Colorado and the Department announced</u> **22,487** Coloradans enrolled in health care coverage for 2015, either in Medicaid, Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+) or in private health insurance purchased through the state health insurance Marketplace between Nov. 15 and Nov. 30.

The two-week period saw 9,782 enrollments in private coverage through Connect for Health Colorado, 12,533 in Medicaid and 172 in CHP+.

Category	Total	Medicaid	CHP+	Connect for Health Colorado (commercial health insurance)
Coloradans newly enrolled	22,487	12,533	172	9,782

The enrollment data above reflects only **new enrollees** and does not include renewals for private insurance purchased through Connect for Health Colorado, Medicaid or CHP+.

Connect for Health Colorado and the Department plan to release updated metrics approximately every two weeks during open enrollment.

More Consumer Resources Available

The Department has published additional resources for eligibility sites and individuals helping Coloradans through the health coverage application process. The following resources can be found on Colorado.gov/HCPF/ACAResources under the For Consumers section:

Medicaid Resources In English

<u>Looking for insurance that fits your budget?</u> (adult pdf) <u>Looking for insurance that fits your budget?</u> (family pdf)

Medicaid Resources In Spanish

<u>Looking for insurance that fits your budget?</u> (adult) <u>Looking for insurance that fits your budget?</u> (family)

Improving health care access and outcomes for the people we serve while demonstrating sound stewardship of financial resources.

Colorado.gov/hcpf

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Connect for Health Colorado Walk-in Sites Now Open

Connect for Health Colorado has opened 13 walk-in enrollment centers across the state. Coloradans interested in applying for health coverage or purchasing a plan through the Marketplace can do so at any of these locations without an appointment. As sampling of the locations include:

Adams County – Kids First Health Care

4675 E. 69th Ave Commerce City

Most Saturdays: 9 AM – 3 PM

Colorado Springs – Liberty Tax Office

445 E. Cheyenne Mtn Blvd, Suite H Colorado Springs

Mon, Wed, and Fri: 9:30 AM - 4 PM

Tues and Thurs: 1 PM - 5 PM

719.201.9546

Denver – 16th Street Mall

16th and California Denver

Mon - Sat: 12 PM - 6 PM

Fort Collins - Liberty Tax Office

1101 W. Drake Rd, Suite A2 Fort Collins

Mon – Fri: 12 PM – 5 PM

970.785.7555

For a <u>full list of all walk-in sites</u> visit ConnectforHealthCO.com. Please share these locations with your networks or encourage Coloradans to visit their local Connect for Health Colorado Health Coverage Guide, Certified Application Counselor, Agent or Broker today.

Important Message from Connect for Health Colorado

Some Connect for Health Colorado customers are encountering technical difficulty with the financial assistance application. The Marketplace has developed a process to assist them. *Please share the following advice with any of your clients who may have run into this issue.*

If you experience difficulty while finishing the financial application please do not start over or fill out multiple applications because this can delay your enrollment.

Instead, please send your full name (as you entered it on your application), your phone number, your email address - and if you have one, your Connect for Health Colorado account number – to the Marketplace's secure email at: help@sc.connectforhealthco.com. **Do not include any additional personal information in the email.** Make sure you put the words "Requesting Enrollment Help" in the email subject line. Connect for Health Colorado will contact you to help you.

You also can call our Customer Service Center at 1-855-PLANS-4-YOU (1-855-752-6749) if you would like to talk with one of the Connect for Health Colorado's trained service representatives.

Rest assured that if you begin your application by December 15, Connect for Health Colorado will work with you to complete your enrollment and financial assistance application for January coverage. DECEMBER 4, 2014 ISSUE 52, PAGE 4

Resources

New Information for Employers

New frequently asked questions regarding the federal employer responsibilities have been posted to <u>Colorado.gov/Health</u>. The new <u>I am an Employer page</u> addresses which employers must provide coverage to their employees or face a federal penalty, what constitutes a full time employee and what new options small businesses have to provide coverage their employees. For more information <u>click here</u> or visit <u>IRS.gov/uac/Affordable-Care-Act-Tax-Provisions-for-Employers</u>.

PEAK Training on November Enhancements

Learn about how the application process on Coloradog.gov/PEAK was streamlined to enhance the PEAK-user experience through a more dynamic benefit enrollment and re-enrollment process, improvements to application design, a single application process, and more. Go to tinyurl.com/peakoutreach then click on PEAK Training Resources.

New Colorado.gov/PEAK Logo

A new look has also been created to represent PEAK as Colorado's online service to screen and apply for medical, food, cash, and early childhood programs. Moving forward, all <u>new</u> collateral must contain the new trademarked PEAK logo. Please note that documents created prior to the logo launch **do not** need to be updated retroactively. **Guidance on the new PEAK logo and images for download is available at tinyurl.com/peakoutreach.**

Reminders

Building Better Health: Enroll 2015 Resources Available

The Department would like to thank all participants in the Colorado Health Foundation's <u>Building Better Health: Enroll 015 conference</u>. The Department has made available online the materials shared by the Department visit: <u>Colorado.gov/hcpf/training-topics-reference-documents-and-guides</u> then scroll down to Building Better Health: Enroll 2015 Conference Materials. All other session materials can be found here:

Coloradohealth.org/BBHResources.

Changes Coming in January to 5% Income Disregard

Beginning January 1, 2015, the Department will implement Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services rule changes to the manner in which the 5% income disregard is applied to individuals applying for Medicaid and CHP+.

The 5% income disregard will be applied when countable income exceeds the FPL for MAGI populations under Medicaid or CHP+. The 5% income disregard is **not** applied to every MAGI eligibility determination and will be applied as a last step in determining eligibility when an individual exceeds the income limit, but is within the income standard if the 5% income disregard were applied.

For more information on this change taking effect January 1, 2015, please see the FAQs on Colorado.gov/HCPF/ACAResources > Fact Sheets & Frequently Asked Questions.